

# WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

The Northern Region Honor Guard from Westville Correctional Facility was activated for funeral services in Three Oaks, Michigan for a retired employee, Officer Annie Upshaw.

Select students at Pendleton Juvenile received a visit from Serge LeClerc, a former offender. He spoke to students about the poor choices that led to his life of crime and substance abuse that resulted in 21.5 years of incarceration. His message was one of individual accountability and the choice to be a positive citizen and give back to one's community.

A photo of the Indiana State Prison appeared on the cover of the 2010 ACA Standard Supplement book. The book is used as a tool for maintaining the standards and practices of daily operations by which 80% of the correctional and juvenile facilities in the country utilize.

The Indianapolis Men's Community Re-Entry Center assisted with Christmas Behind Bars' Annual Bagging Project for Lemuel Vega's Christian Prison Ministry in Arcadia, Indiana. 10,000 bags were assembled and loaded onto semi trailers.

Staff from Pendleton Correctional Facility presented 20 baby blankets to offenders in the Wee Ones Nursery Program at Indiana Women's Prison. The baby blankets were hand made by the male offenders in the Inside-Out Dads program at Pendleton Correctional Facility. The Wee Ones Nursery Program presented the Pendleton staff with a thank you card expressing their gratitude for the blankets.

American Legion Post 130 at Indiana State Prison was acknowledged for the positive efforts made by its members to give back to the community by raising and donating over ten to fifteen thousand dollars each year for local charities. Post 130 is the only post in the country to operate inside a maximum security prison.

Putnamville Correctional Facility collected \$2,554.00 and 1021 food items for the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. The Away Home Shelter, Cunot Community and Senior Citizen Center, Putnam and Clay County Food Pantries each received 255 food items and a monetary donation of \$638.00.

Pendleton Correctional Facility's Wheels for the World program refurbished 8 wheel chairs during the month of February.

Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility donated over 98 pounds of food to the Second Helpings Food Rescue located in downtown Indianapolis. The staff collected the 223 nonperishable food items throughout the month of February during the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive.

The Parole Director, Supervisors, and Agents from the Indianapolis Parole Office (Pd#3) were on hand to answer questions, address concerns, and meet and greet the new neighbors during the first Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association meeting.

PEN Products conducted a "Career Path Planning Workshop", an interactive program focusing on Career Theory, Job Retention, and Time Management at Chain O Lakes Correctional Facility. The workshop, attended by 28 offenders, 14 professionals from IDOC and other post release service providers, was a unique opportunity to share viewpoints.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility kicked off a Fresh Favorites program for visitors. Thanks to collaboration between Aramark and the facility, the program allows visitors to purchase Fresh Favorites items for themselves and the offender during the visitation period.

Putnamville, Pendleton Juvenile and Wabash Valley all held special celebrations for Black History Month. Putnamville's program highlighted the contributions of current and historical African Americans. DePauw University faculty and students, Community Advisory Board members, and the media attended the event. At Pendleton, each teacher had the students focus on the individual classroom curriculum and create projects, posters and murals that the students could enjoy. Over 250 offenders at Wabash Valley were able to attend a special program filled with inspirational words, music, and a message of personal responsibility and the importance of education.

An Arby's Food Sale was held at the Correctional Industrial Facility. The 450 orders served raised nearly \$2,000.00 in donations going to Rupert's Kids, Circle Sanctuary, and The Haiti Relief fund.

A fund raiser was held for the "Saving Max" prison program. The proceeds will be used to assist in the funding of the two animal rescue programs, FIDO and 9 lives, currently at the Correctional Industrial Facility. Saving Max is a prison program through Anderson Animal Care and Control that provides pet owners a temporary home for their pets.

Branchville Correctional Facility donated \$500.00 each to Marengo Elementary, Patoka Elementary, and Cannelton Elementary Schools. The money was generated through offender fundraisers. Local schools submitted proposals on how best to utilize the money.

**"Your goals are the road maps that guide you and show you what is possible for your life." ~ Les Brown**